

Minutes of a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 18th November 2013** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7:00pm.

Present:

- Cllr. H. Cadd
- Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins
- Cllr. P. Collins
- Cllr. J. Harvey
- Cllr. P. Hirons
- Cllr. D. Isham
- Cllr. R. Lehmann
- Cllr. A. Mahi
- Cllr. H. Mordue
- Cllr. Ms. R. Newell Town Mayor
- Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue
- Cllr. M. Smith
- Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark
- Cllr. R. Stuchbury
- Cllr. W. Whyte

In attendance:

- Mr. C. P. Wayman Town Clerk
- Mrs. C. Bolton Committee Clerk
- Ms. S. McMurtrie Town Plan Officer

509/13 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED to note that there were apologies from Cllr Bloomfield and Cllr Try. Apologies for late arrival were also received from Cllr Harvey.

510/13 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Stuchbury declared an interest in item 14, County Council Budget Consultation. Cllr Whyte declared an interest in item 16 as the Chairman of the Local Area Forum, and item 22 as the Council's representative to the Buckingham and Gawcott Charitable Trust.

511/13 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 30th September 2013 (**BTC/05/13**).

AGREED

512/13 Interim Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 28th October 2013 (**IM/03/13**).

AGREED

513/13 Planning Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Planning Committee meetings held on Monday 7th October 2013 (**PL/07/13**) and Monday 28th October 2013 (**PL/08/13**).

Proposed by Cllr Whyte, seconded by Cllr Smith, **AGREED** and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that the main allocation number in the BNDP be the lowest possible; in accordance with the validation of the VAP.

AGREED

- Monday 28th October 2013 **Copy previously circulated PL/08/13**

Proposed by Cllr. Hirons, seconded by Cllr. Mahi, and **RECOMMENDED** that all matters relating to the Lace Hill employment site, Sainsbury's and the Health Centre be dealt with by the Full Council.

AGREED

The Town Clerk advised Councillors that a new Planning Application for the Lace Hill site was expected shortly so would be dealt with at an Extra-ordinary meeting of Full Council.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

Cllr Harvey arrived during the following item

514/13 Environment and Property Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 21st October 2013 (**EPH/04/13**).

AGREED

461/13 Church Hill Ownership – Members **AGREED** that further discussion with representatives of the Church was required, and that item should be considered again by the EP&H Committee.

ACTION: EP&H AGENDA DECEMBER

515/13 Town Centre and Events Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Town Centre & Events Committee meeting held on Monday 14th October 2013 (**TCE/04/13**).

AGREED

440/13 Cllr Lehmann queried the budget and pricing for quotes for the Memory Book. Cllr Stuchbury reported that there had been ongoing copyright issues with the proposed material, and that there was a budget of approximately £1700. Quotes for printing would be circulated to all Members as soon as possible.

ACTION: CLLR STUCHBURY

516/13 Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 4th November 2013 (**FAP/04/13**)

AGREED

517/13 Motion – Cllr Stuchbury

Motion to Buckingham Town Council that the Council undertake to make any Council meeting fully accessible to the disabled; and ensure a recorded vote of the motion.

That the Town Council will -

1. Undertake to make the Council chamber properly wheelchair accessible by ensuring access to the disabled toilet in the community centre.
2. Undertake to agree to source funds to enable the works required to meet this need.

3. Undertake from this meeting to form a sub group to look at council policies, and ensure that they adequately meet the needs of any disabled Councillor, or member of the public to attend Council meetings in the same way as any able bodied person.
4. That any amendment to this motion is by way of a recorded vote.
5. That if item 3 is agreed, the policy shall be returned to Council to be agreed within six months.
6. If items 1 and 2 are agreed, these works should be undertaken as soon as possible, and shall not be delayed by amendments which are not in the public interest.

Cllr Stuchbury explained that he had brought the motion to the Town Council to ensure that the Town Council facility was fully accessible to any person requiring disabled access.

Members discussed the motion at length, agreeing in principle to points 1&2.

Cllr P Collins pointed out that, under the terms of the lease to the Town Council, access to the Community Centre disabled toilet was available for anyone visiting the Council Chamber. A key would be provided for the adjoining door, and access code for the alarm. The Town Clerk would work with the Chairman of the Management Association of the Community Centre to ensure access.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK/CLLR G COLLINS

Cllr Stuchbury withdrew the original motion.

Proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Mahi to accept that Cllr Stuchbury's motion in principal, be referred to the EP&H Committee was **AGREED** by unanimous vote.

ACTION: EP&H COMMITTEE

518/13 Motion – Cllr P Collins

The Lace Hill development incorporates plans for community space (playing fields, possible community hall etc).

This land is currently owned by the developers but will need to be transferred to another owner at some point.

It is important that these community facilities stay within the control of the community and do not get absorbed into the control of the adjacent school (which is not community controlled) or any other body.

The best way to protect that is for the Town Council to register a formal interest in purchasing the land through the "Right-to-Buy" legislation. This is in addition to any other pressure we can bring to bear to ensure that these facilities remain truly open to the public.

The Town Clerk is therefore instructed to formally register our "Right-to-Buy" interest in the site(s) without delay.

The "Right-to-Buy" will not be triggered until the developers seek to transfer ownership of the land and in the meantime the Town Clerk is instructed to write to all the parties involved (Bourton Meadow School - as the body running the new school, Bucks CC, AVDC and all the developers of the site) stating that Buckingham Town Council wishes to manage the site(s) pending such time as they fall under Buckingham Town Council ownership.

Members agreed that Cllr Collin's motion was proposed at a fortuitous time and considered that now was the right time to indicate interest in the land; the Town Council would be the ideal body to make future provision for use of the land, for the

benefit of the local community. Cllrs agreed that the motion should read 'Right-to-bid' rather than buy.

The motion, proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Stuchbury was **AGREED** unanimously.

519/13 Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan

Members received the draft final documents for adoption.

<http://www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-dp/neighbourhood-dp.html>

Councillors discussed the document and commended the Town Clerk, Town Plan Officer and all staff involved in the production of the plan for their hard work and diligence.

Cllr Whyte would work with the Town Clerk on specific areas that required clarification. The next stage would be an 8 week public consultation, dates to be advised.

Proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Hiron and **AGREED** that the draft final neighbourhood plan be adopted by the Town Council, following minor adjustments.

520/13 Public Toilets (795/12, 17/13, 244/13, 405/13)

The Town Clerk reported to Members that AVDC were in the process of setting up Lease documents for the new toilet facility; he had also met with Cllr Mills to discuss site options. The position of the toilets had been agreed adjacent to the entrance of Cornwalls Meadow car park, opposite the Community Centre.

Members were keen that the proposed development should consider all factors of access, footpath design, parking implications, ensuring a positive overall urban design.

The Town Clerk would bring costs for the project as soon as they were available.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

521/13 Office Lease

Members received and **AGREED** the proposed amendments to the lease.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

522/13 County Council Budget Consultation

Deferred from Interim (474/13)

Members are advised to take part in the consultation please visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/budget and click on 'Resident survey'. Alternatively you can email research@buckscc.gov.uk to receive a hard copy of the survey or access it via this link – <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/media/1450567/Budget-final.pdf>

Members had already made individual responses, and **AGREED** the following responses on behalf of the Town Council.

Q1. To protect the Child Services Department, and ensure adequate resource of welfare workers.

Q2. To support the delivery of locally devolved services.

Q3. That Bucks County Council wind up and move towards creating a new unitary authority.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

523/13 Draft Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2014-2017

Members received and viewed the consultation.

<http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/about/consultation/> .

The Town Clerk had provided a summary of responses to the consultation, tabled at the meeting. Members **AGREED** the recommendation to forward the responses to AVDC for clarification.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

524/13 LAF Meeting 23rd October – Access Issues

A written report from Councillor Strain-Clark was noted.

525/13 DCLG Our Place

A communication from DCLG was received.

526/13 Buckingham Surface Water Management Plan

Members received and discussed the action points of the Surface Water Management report. Members felt the majority of flooding experienced in Buckingham was from the River, rather than surface drainage water. Members also commented it would have been helpful to have had a %age analysis of the sources of flood water.

Cllr O'Donoghue had also supplied an aerial photo of the town taken in 1998 showing considerable areas of flooding throughout Bourton Park.

The Town Clerk would return the comments and the action points would be progressed.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

527/13 To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Mordue reported that budget setting would start at AVDC later in the week, though it was not yet known what cuts were likely from central government.

Cllr Stuchbury reported on his work as part of the Education Select Committee who were continuing to work with low performing schools in the County; also on the 'ready to work' initiative aimed at equipping students with the right qualifications for employment on leaving education. Cllr Stuchbury reported on the County Council's forthcoming budget cuts, though not yet confirmed, possibly up to 10% in some areas and stated that it was harder and harder for authorities to continue operating effectively; and that he was anxious to continue to support vulnerable people in the County.

Cllr Whyte reported on his work at County through the Environment, Transport Select and Locality Services Select Committee; including the transport contract review and how the council deals with S106 agreements.

Cllr Whyte was also continuing work on promoting the North/South cycling and walking links from Silverstone to Winslow, focusing on possible EU funding. In Buckingham he was in discussion with the Local Area Technician to look at improving drop kerb positions around the town, to assist less able people to navigate the town centre.

528/13 CPRE Notice of AGM

A notification of AGM was noted.

529/13 Royal Mail

(356/13) To receive responses from Vince Cable, Secretary of State for Business and Innovation,

From John Bercow MP

From Bill Hayes, General Secretary, CWU

From the BIS Ministerial Correspondence Unit
All noted.

530/13 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members noted the reports.

Buckingham and Gawcott Charitable Trust, Meeting of the Board of Trustees
19/2/2013

Green Buckingham Group Meeting Minutes 10/10/13

Buckingham Community Wildlife Project Steering Group Minutes 21/10/13

Buckingham & Maids Moreton NAG Minutes 9/10/13

Cllr Smith reported that following the above meeting and ongoing problems with noise from 13 High St, a noise abatement order had been served with effect from 1st November.

Buckingham Community Management Committee Minutes 22/5 & 27/06/13

Buckingham Community Association AGM Minutes 28/3/13

Destination Buckingham Group Meeting Minutes 17/9/13

531/13 News Releases

Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan pre-submission dates.

532/13 Mayoral & Deputy Mayoral Engagements

Members noted the information

533/13 Chair's Announcements

None.

534/13 Dates of next meetings

Interim Council – Monday 16th December 2013

Full Council – Monday 20th January 2014

Meeting closed at: 9.15pm

Signed Date

Town Mayor